

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT  
OF WEST VIRGINIA

\* \* \* \* \*

SCOTT T. BALLOCK,	*
Plaintiff	* Case No.
vs.	* 1:17-CV-52
ELLEN RUTH COSTLOW	*
STATE TROOPER MICHAEL KIEF,	*
STATE TROOPER RONNIE M. GASKINS,	*
STATE TROOPER CHRIS BERRY,	*
Defendants	*

\* \* \* \* \*

TROOPER RONNIE M. GASKINS

May 29, 2019

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1           Q.    And then likewise, the name Kenny Ice.  You may  
2 have recognized that name?

3           A.    Right, it was through the e-mails ---

4           Q.    Right.

5           A.    --- that I'm --- Ellen talked about Kenny Ice.  
6 At the time talking to him, I --- I initially thought it  
7 was Scott, but he identified himself as Kenny.  So ---.

8           Q.    Okay.

9           All right.

10           No recollection as to what the argument was  
11 about?

12           A.    I'm sorry, I don't remember.

13           Q.    Okay.

14           The fact that there was no report prepared,  
15 help me with that.  I mean, there was a dispatch in  
16 response to a 911 call.

17           Right?

18           A.    Correct.

19           Q.    And that was --- that was the reason that you  
20 and Trooper Horne went to the residence was because  
21 somebody picked up the phone at the house and called 911.

22           A.    Correct.

23           Q.    And so ultimately there was no --- there was  
24 nothing documented about this.

1                   Why is that?

2                   A.    I can say my --- through my career I respond to  
3                   many domestics, whether it was a third-party call or  
4                   someone in the house that just wanted somebody to leave.  
5                   A lot of times there's no crime committed, it's just  
6                   verbal.

7                   And our job at that point is to ensure the  
8                   safety of everyone. So if that means getting one party  
9                   to leave the house and separate them for the night, it's  
10                  what we do.

11                  If there's evidence of domestic violence, then  
12                  we would do a report. And in this particular case there  
13                  was no --- there was no evidence of a domestic violence,  
14                  it was just a verbal argument.

15                  Q.    Okay.

16                  So what I hear you saying is --- is that at  
17                  least in respect to domestic calls, in the absence of  
18                  violence, a report's not expected under the --- the way  
19                  the State Police operate?

20                  A.    Right. And as long as we notify them about  
21                  getting a protective order through Magisterial Court. we  
22                  give them those options if they ever need one where to  
23                  get one.

24                  Q.    That reminds me in this case one of the